A NEW BEE OF THE GENUS HOPLITIS.

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Although bees have been collected at Boulder, Colorado, for over a quarter of a century, new species may still be found. This spring, on May 22, Mr. Charles Hicks bred a female *Hoplitis* from the rest, and it proves to be undescribed.

Hoplitis hicksi n. sp.

♀. Length about 9 mm., anterior wing 6.5; black, moderately shining, the head and thorax with greyish-white hair, long and rather dense and clearer (but by no means pure) white on face, and orange hair beneath edge of clypeus; antennae entirely black; facial quadrangle broad, not far from square; mandibles broad, densely punctate, quadridentate, but the two inner teeth low and small; clypeus dull and closely punctured, the lower edge straight, neither clypeus nor supraclypeal area showing any shining spaces; front densely punctured; cheeks very broad; mesothorax and scutellum shining, with distinct but well separated punctures; notauli linear, not very long; basal area of metathorax dull; tegulae black; wings greyish, with a paler transverse band just beyond the cells; stigma and nervures black; basal nervure meeting nervulus; second cubital cell receiving recurrent nervures equally distant from base and apex, this distance about or hardly equal to half length of first intercubitus; legs black, with pale hair, light reddish fulvous on inner side of hind tarsi; abdomen shining, rather weakly punctured, hair-bands dull white, on first tergite only at sides, on second rather broadly interrupted in middle, on third narrowly interrupted; sixth tergite with short pruinose pubescence; ventral scopa very pale fulvous. Boulder, Colorado (Hicks, 2932).

From *H. mesae* Ckll. and *H. graceae* Ckll. it is easily known by the entirely black antennae and quadridentate mandibles. The following table separates it from a series of black Osmiines, with which it could be confused.

Key

Ventral scopa all black; abdomen without bands
Osmia globosa Cresson

Ventral scopa not at all, or not all, black; abdomen with white hair-bands, at least at sides 1

1. A conspicuous polished spot or band on upper end of clypeus; ventral scopa white 2
   No such shining mark on upper end of clypeus 3
2. Area of metathorax shining; more robust species, with more strongly and closely punctured mesothorax
   Hoplitis sambuci Titus
   Area of metathorax dull; eyes light greenish
   H. mescalerium Ckll.
3. Area of metathorax shining 4
   Area of metathorax dull, slightly shining seen from behind.. 5
4. Eyes dark green; fifth tergite without light hairs; clypeus with black hair ..... *Osmia abjecta* Cresson
   Eyes black; fifth tergite with light hairs; clypeus with short reddish hair ..... *Osmia* n. sp Sandhouse MS.
5. Larger; wings strongly reddened; hind femora stouter
   Andronicus cylindricus Cresson (*monardae* Ckll.)
   Smaller; wings not at all reddened ..... *Hoplitis hicksi* Ckll.

In 1929, Miss Sandhouse pointed out to me that in true *Osmia* the notauli are greatly reduced and often punctiform, whereas in *Monumetha, Alcidamea,* etc., there is a distinct slender line. I find that in *Hoplitis adunca* (Panzer), the type of *Hoplitis,* the notauli are linear. They are of the linear type in our *H. mesae, hicksi, sambuci* (but short and weak), *Osmia abjecta, Andronicus cylindricus,* and also in *Osmia* n. sp Sandh. MS. But in *H. mescalerium* they are obsolete, and in *Osmia globosa* they are punctiform. *Osmia rufa* (L.), the type of *Osmia,* has them short and subpunctiform.

There is a closely related genus, *Hoplitina,* found in California and Arizona. The type is *H. pentamera* Ckll., and *H. hesperia* Crawford, described six years later, is considered (litt., 1928) by Mr. Timberlake to be its female. American workers have recognized a number of genera segregated from *Osmia,* which in Europe are considered only subgenera.